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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, 25, D. C.

February 1, 1946

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BRANCH
ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER No. 3

VEGETABLE DIVISION

SURPLUS VEGETABLES

Progress has been made in the disposition of a portion of approximately 11,000 tons of rutabagas made surplus by cancellation of dehydration contracts. Approximately 1,000 tons have been sold to canners and 250 tons to shippers for fresh shipment. Negotiations are under way for sale of surplus California carrots to Eastern canners because of the light supply of topped carrots now available in the East and Midwest.

A docket is being prepared to permit the purchase with Section 32 funds for school lunch and relief purposes of any surplus beets, carrots, or rutabagas left over from the dehydration program that can not otherwise be disposed of.

ARMY PURCHASES OF FRESH ONIONS

The Army is still acquiring fresh onions under its priority which expires March 31 unless terminated sooner. Approximately one-third of the 500 cars covered by the priority have been purchased. The Army has been asked to use dehydrated onions wherever possible.

PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAM

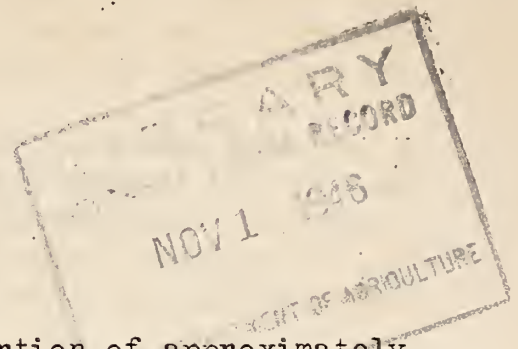
A schedule of dates by which it is proposed to have completed detailed dockets of price support programs covering fresh and processed vegetables for the 1946 season is being prepared.

PRICE CEILINGS

Following additional frost damage to Florida snap beans on January 19, an upward adjustment in the ceiling price from \$3.50 to \$3.75 per bushel f.o.b. Pompano, Florida basing point was made effective from January 31 to February 20.

A proposed amendment to MPR 426 re-defining "country shipper" and "secondary jobber" was approved. The effect of the amendment is to prevent shippers who are not performing the jobbing function from claiming the secondary jobber markup in receiving markets as they have been able to do at times in the past.

An amendment to MPR 426 provides that imported produce sold between seasons shall be priced as though of the old crop. The amendment provides that if



the imported item, is sold during a time when old and new domestic crops overlap, it is to be priced as though of the old crop. The amendment also defined the season for cantaloups, honeyvalls, and honeydews as extending from January 1 to December 31 in order that imported melons may be priced as though of the new crop.

A proposed amendment to SO 132 was received from OPA removing canned carrots and canned carrot juice from price control. These items had previously been suspended from control for the period October 31 to January 29, and without approval of the proposed amendment would have returned automatically to price control after January 29.

Amendment 15, Supplementary Order 132, effective January 28, removes from price control fresh houthouse lettuce and the following canned vegetable items, sweetpotatoes, parsnips, onions (not including pickled), rutabagas, turnips, sauerkraut juice, beet juice, peppers, cabbage and potatoes (not including French fruid or shoestring).

L. S. Fenn, Chief

FRESH PRODUCTS STANDARDIZATION AND INSPECTION DIVISION

REVISION OF MONTHLY SPI REPORT FORM FV-218, FORMERLY OMS-424

All shipping point supervisors will in the near future receive a supply of new monthly report form FV-218, formerly OMS-424. It will be the responsibility of all supervisors to see that these forms are fully and correctly completed and sent to Washington monthly so they can be used as a basis for billing the various cooperating agencies for overhead and any other amounts due.

MARKET INSPECTION HANDBOOK

A copy of Market Inspection Handbook for Sweet Potatoes dated January 1946 has been mailed to each market inspector.

E. E. Conklin, Chief

MARKET NEWS DIVISION

MARKET NEWS NOTES

Jay C. Keller is relieving S. W. Russell at Presque Isle. Mr. Russell has been hospitalized account/a split retina and is not expected to be able to resume operation of the Presque Isle office for several weeks.

DISCHARGED VETERAN RETURNS

Lyle N. Gardner, formerly in the Denver market news office, was recently discharged from the Armed Services. He was reinstated in the service January 21 and assigned to the Chicago office.

NOTES

Mr. Schoolcraft is on a western field trip. He will leave California February 3 and expects to visit Phoenix, the Rio Grande Valley, Ft. Worth, Kansas City, St. Louis and Cincinnati on his return trip.

TEMPORARY FIELD STATIONS

Location	In Charge	Commodity	Probable Opening & Closing Dates
Belle Glade, Fla. LW West Lake Road	D. R. Hall	Vegetables	Nov. 1 - May 15
Brawley, Calif Planters Hotel Bldg.	J. H. Hunter	Lettuce & Misc. Veggies.	Jan. 7 - May 31
Grand Forks, N. D. 313 P. O. Bldg.	B. I. Burrell	Potatoes	Sept. 17 - Mar. 29
Grand Rapids, Mich. 412 P. O. Bldg.	C. B. Miller	Vegetables	Oct. 29 - Apr. 12
Idaho Falls, Idaho LW 206 P.O. Bldg.	L. W. Gay	Potatoes	Oct. 1 - Mar. 29
Lakeland, Fla. LW Box 191	H. F. Willson	Citrus	Oct. 7 - May 17
Plant City, Fla. Box 449	R. M. Peterson	Straws & Misc. Veggies.	Jan. 16 - May 10
Pompano, Fla. LW State Farmers Market	J. M. Roberts	Vegetables	Jan. 2 - Mar. 29
Presque Isle, Me Federal Bldg.	S. W. Russell	Potatoes	Sept. 10 - May 10
Rochester, N. Y. 300 Terminal Bldg.	A. L. Thomas	Vegetables	Aug. 27 - May 10
Sanford, Fla. LW State Farmers Market	C. D. Sherman	Celery & Veggies.	Jan. 2 - May 31
Weslaco, Texas LW Post Office Bldg	R. E. Winfrey	Citrus & Vegetables	Oct. 18 - May 31

J. L. Buntin, Acting in Charge

DECIDUOUS DIVISION

HORTICULTURAL INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN TRADE

As an added feature to the agenda of the first meeting of the Horticultural Industry Advisory Committee on Foreign Trade, which was held in the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Washington January 28-31. William L. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State, and principal U. S. negotiator of the proposed British Loan, met with the Committee on January 29, discussing with them the proposed loan and the part it plays in the Government's program for expanding foreign trade.

E. A. Meyer reported on his recent conference with the Canadian horticultural industry and discussed briefly the industry's responsibility in the expansion of market outlets. S. R. Smith discussed domestic supplies, demand, and possible export position on fruits and vegetables.

Much interest was shown in the various foreign trade problems discussed at the meeting and the Committee members especially expressed great satisfaction with the results of the meeting.

M. McCown, Acting Chief

DRIED FRUIT DIVISION

DRIED FRUIT IN CCC INVENTORY

Authorization has been issued to sell in civilian trade channels dried prunes and raisins remaining in inventory after present commitments have been filled. Detailed information is expected within a short time from Shipping and Storage Branch as to location and lot numbers of such uncommitted quantities. As soon as this information is received, inspection for grade will be made as a basis of sale. Inspection prior to offering for sale in civilian trade channels has been requested by the Division on uncommitted quantities of dried apples, apricots, peaches and pears totaling approximately 1,000 tons.

NUTS AND DRIED FRUITS DECLARED SURPLUS BY MILITARY SERVICES

Considerable additional quantities of shelled nuts, including cashews, almonds, pecans and filberts, totaling about 450,000 pounds, have been declared surplus by the Navy and have been inspected prior to sale under the Surplus Property Administration Regulation. Surplus declarations and statements on pending declarations have also been received on several lots

of dried fruits totaling approximately 230 tons, which will be sold in civilian trade channels as soon as inspection is completed.

DISCHARGED VETERAN RETURNS

George Eastman returned from Military Service on January 28 and is now on the job with this Division.

E. M. Grahon, Chief.

